CHAPTER V

Police Administration in Mizoram - I:

History of Mizoram Police

The fourth chapter dealt with the features and factors like history, geography, climate, rainfall, seasons, soil, vegetation, agriculture, people, demographic features, social life, festivals, clothings, ornaments, crafts, musical instruments, sports and games, dances, marriage custom, religion, ethnic composition, education, communication, industry and administrative set up. It provides us with the basic minimum data and information regarding general administration in Mizoram which serves as the basis of our study of police administration in Mizoram. In the present chapter, we will discuss the origin, growth and features of police administration in Mizoram.

Pre - British Period

The early history of the Mizos, as are called now is hardly known. There is a legend accepted more or less as true that Mizos and other hill tribes near Mizoram had come from what was called “Chhinlung” or “Sinlung” in Southern part of China to Myanmar and then continued westward to the present Mizoram. The art of writing not being known to them the written records of history of Mizos became available only from the beginning of 19th century. Even the records were more of the results of
the impression of matters Lushai, as inhabitants of present Mizoram were called by the British rulers, formed by others rather than to any particular course of development within Lushai itself as perceived by Lushai eyes. ¹

Till the end of the end of the second half of the 19th century, the Mizo Chief were the centre of authority in Mizoram. The chief of the village was the supreme administrative head whose word was law within the limits of his territory. The chief was called ‘Lal’ which in Lushai language means a ‘Lord’. He maintained his position more through his personal qualities than through statutory authority, even though under normal circumstances, the sons of the chief were given the opportunity to build themselves up as chief. It is said that the people had adopted the chief system, so that they could be guided, governed and protected by the chief in all activities of life.² In due course of time the office of the chief became hereditary and the benefits of becoming a chief went to the youngest son. However, elder sons of the chief, soon after attaining maturity, were given separate villages and a few of the households. Those sons in turn, were the chiefs of new villages. The chief were the protectors of life and property. The entire land belonged to the chief. He was the supreme administrator, the chief justice, the guardian and protector of his village. The chief used to administer his village through a council of elders or ‘Upas’. The second person of importance in a Mizo village used to be the ‘Upamin’ or the

'Prime Minister' who was the legal adviser to the chief and was expected to be an expert in the customary law of the Mizos. Besides the 'Upamin' there were 'Upas' or ministers, who were selected by the chief, and they acted as the eyes and ears of the chief. They sat in council with the chief. The actual control of the chief depended very much on his personal character. A strong chief’s decision would have the support of his ‘Upas’ whereas a weak chief would have to go along with the decisions of his ‘Upas’ even if he held contrary views.

Besides the ‘Upas’, the chief also appointed some other village officials to assist him, as well as to carry out the village administration smoothly and efficiently for the welfare of the villagers. They were Ramhuals (expert jhum cultivators), Tlangau (village courier/crier), Thirdeng (blacksmith), Puithiam (priest) and Khawchhiar (village writer). The chief had both executive and judicial powers. The chief’s executive power consisted of distribution of land among his people for cultivation, presiding over the meetings of the council, helping the villagers in time of their difficulties and adversities, encourage them in all possible ways and reward them for on their achievements. He was, in, fact, the administrator, the protector and the guardian of his village. The chief had extensive powers of owning all the lands in his village, ordering capital punishment, seizing stock and property of the villagers intending to migrate to other villages.

taxing traders doing business within his area of jurisdiction, appointing his sons as chiefs in his own jurisdiction and attaching property of the villagers. He was responsible for maintaining intervillage paths, movements of people into or out of the village, and occasionally call for meeting of the council of elders to formulate policies for village administration, to chalk out programs and activities concerning the village.\(^5\) The chief administered justice according to customary law of the Mizos. The chief and his council of elders constituted the village court and decided all cases and disputes. The jurisdiction of the chiefs court was his village. The chief's court was more or less a bench system. The chief was the only court of justice in the village and had power over life and death. His decisions were final. There was no appeal against his decision.

The Kukis, Lushais, Shendus and Chins occupying the hill ranges east and north of Hill Tipperah, prior to 1800 had been carrying out raids on the plains people, but no authentic records giving details of such raids and atrocities are available. From 1800 onwards, records available bemoan the raids of these hillmen who swept down from their fastness in the east of murder, pillage and burn. During the period 1824 to 1854 there had been 19 raids by the hill tribes, in which 107 plains people had been killed, 15 wounded and 186 persons captured for slavery.\(^6\)

On 16th April 1844, at nightfall about 200 Kukis surrounded the Manipuri village Kachu Bari under the British district of, Sylhet and cut off the heads of 22 people and carried away 6 captives alive. The British government felt the impact of the raid as the issue not only involved the problem of law and order but also the security of the British frontier. The British government finally decided to sanction a punitive expedition which was to be headed by Captain Blackwood consisting of four companies of Sylhet Light Infantry. Blackwood’s expedition was the first of its kind in the Lushai Hills. Its primary object was to punish Lalchukla who had committed a raid on the Syhlet frontier. Lameer Singh, a petty Pytoo Chief and a cousin of Lalchukla helped the expedition by acting as guides and interpreters. Lalchukla’s village was surrounded and all the grains stored were destroyed.

On assurance that he would be pardoned if he surrendered voluntarily, Lalchukla reluctantly came down and surrendered. He was tried and awarded a sentence of transportation for life. The severe sentence was considered by the Lushais to be a breach of faith and their future relationship with the English became very much strained then. The local English officers for their lack of political far-sight failed to realize that Lalchukla’s trail was just the beginning of the Anglo-Lushai relationship; instead they took it to be the end of the matter. In the Blackwood’s expedition Lalmeer

9. Ibid., p.18.
Singh was set against his cousin Lalchukla by the English. But the result was disastrous. Instead of pacifying the enmity between the rival Chiefs the British inflamed it. The British authorities soon became involved in frontier troubles which were the creation of their own. A careful analysis of the Anglo-Lushai relationship reveals that Blackwood’s expedition was the first of the series of military operations the English had to undertake to extend their hold over the Lushais.

The Lushais continued raids both into Manipur state and Sylhet in 1845, 1847 and 1849 wherein may people were killed and carried off as captives.\textsuperscript{10} In June 1847, the Magistrate of Sylhet reported a series of massacres by the Kukis and that more than 150 people from the British ruled areas had been killed living in the territory of Hill Tipperah. A detachment of troops sent by the Sylhet authorities was also attacked by a large body of Kukis, aided by Tipperahs (Lushais).

In 1847-48, the Shendus (Lakers) started raiding some villages of Hill Tipperah. Immediate action was taken by the British to send an expeditionary force under Lieutenant Hopkin and Lieutenant Sanders from Arakan side with an escort of Native Infantry up to Kaladans.\textsuperscript{11}

In November 1849, the Lushais again attacked the border of Sylhet and the southern frontier of Cachar. This incident was informed to the

\textsuperscript{11} \textit{Ibid.}
Governmen of Bengal and the latter took steps in stopping the incursions. The Lushais continued to the raids and as a result of enquiry by made by the authorities of Fort William, the Deputy Governor of Bengal authorized Lieutenant Colonel Lister, the Political agent of Khasi Hills, to make a spot enquiry of the Cachar raids. Lister’s investigation revealed that the raids were to be the work of Lushai Chief Laling-bhoom’s two sons Barnarlal and Lalpoe under their fathers instructions. Lister proposed a military operations and accordingly started his march from the outskirts of Silchar on 4th January 1850. Lister was helped by the Kukie Chief, Salpoe in his expedition. Lister continued his march till he reached the village-cum-fortress of Mulla. The expedition occupied the village and freed four hundred and twentynine captives. Lister found that the Lushais were well armed and well trained and their instructors were all Burmese. Before returning the expedition destroyed the village. Lister on reaching Silchar made supplied military and geographical informations of the Lushais and the Lushai Hills to the authorities at Fort William. Lister’s report opened the eyes of the authorities in Calcutta as to the military strength of the Lushais. Realizing that retaliatory measures could never effectively check the Lushais from incursions, the Government of Bengal decided to adopt conciliatory measures.

The conciliatory policy proved before long unsuccessful. The discovery of indigenous tea plant in Assam led to the coming up of more and more tea gardens in the southern borders of Cachar and Eastern borders of Chittagong Hill Tracts. This had an alarming effect on the hill tribes in Tipperah and adjacent hill areas who considered it as a definite encroachment upon their hereditary hunting grounds. Their suspicion found expression in a raid upon the tea gardens of Lohar Band and Monier Khal. In January 1862, the Lushais raided three small villages under the Rajnagar Thana, on the south-east corner of Sylhet. The Lushai raiders killed or carried away almost all the inhabitants of these villages. This raid is known as “Adampore Massacre”. In November 1862, the Government of India established an Armed Police Post and stationed 50 men of the Kamarup Regiment in Adampore. Subsequent negotiations took place between the Lushai’s and the British. It was revealed that the Adampore massacre had been led by four Lushai chiefs viz. 1. Ngursailova (son of Lalsuktla of the Palian tribe), 2. Suakpuilala (son of Mangpawrha and grandson of Sailo chief Lallula), 3. Runphunga (younger brother of Suakpuilala) and Lalhuliana (a Poitu chief). The negotiation was carried on between Suakpuilala and Captain Thomas Herbert Lewins.

Captain Thomas Herbert Lewin became the first Superintendent of Chittagong Hill Tracts in 1864. He used to tour his districts frequently and

15. Ibid.
in course of his tour became friendly with the Lushais. As a result of the growing friendship the British abandoned a police expedition against the Lushais in 1865. However, in 1868 and 1869 the Lushais continued their raids. This outraged the British and they decided to send a large punitive expedition to the Lushai hills composed of army and military police under the command of Brigadier General Nuthall.

The Government of India under Lord Mayo was in principle, averse, to move large bodies of troops or police force to effect reprisals for outrages by following the tribal people to their hills. But the Government was willing to try the plan to manage the Lushai Hills directly by a selected British Officer as suggested by the local officers and the Bengal provincial government. The then Governor of Bengal Sir W. Grey was of the opposite view but his views did not prevail. The Lushai chiefs also fearing punitive expeditions sent their mantries to Mr. Edgar, the Deputy Commissioner at Silchar to renew their friendly relations. Following this Mr. Edgar made visits to the eastern Lushai clan upto Lushai Ghat, far up the Tuirial river in the very heart of Lushai Hills. However, he was not well received by the Lushai chiefs. Mr. Edgar had been able to convince Suakpuilala that a boundary line would be fixed to south Cachar and promised to place a Lushai village on that line. Subsequent efforts to fix a new boundary line proved to be futile as a series of raids had begun even before Mr. Edgar could reach back to Silchar.

The Lushai raids in 1870-71 were both extensively organized and determined in character than any other previous raids. A young British girl aged six, Mary Winchester was captured after her parents had been killed. In July 1871, the Governor General in Council took the final decision to send a strong Force and bring the Lushais to submission. An overwhelming force was sent to the Lushai Hills. It consisted of two columns. The object was neither annexation nor mere retaliation but to strengthen the previous policy of conciliation. This expedition compelled many of the powerful chiefs to tender their submission. They surrendered their guns, released their captives, including Mary Winchester and paid a large quantity of fines in kind.

As a result of this expedition the Lushais were forced to acknowledge the superior powers of the British. The power of the Eastern and Western chief, was to a large extent, crippled and their traditional fighting prestige, and standing adversely affected. This served as a demoralizing effect among the Lushais. Before long, a number of the less important chiefs gave up their allegiance to their masters and began to cultivate friendship with the British. The local authority deputed regularly one of its officers to visit the Lushai chiefs in a friendly manner, and at the same time the frontier posts were kept well guarded.17

In 1882, a famine broke out followed by plague and pestilence which drove a large number of people out of the hills. Not only the jhum was getting exhausted but rubber, the most important medium of exchange, was dying out because of over tapping. The people had no means to raise money to purchase food. Utter destitution and acute depression formed the idea of plunder as the only means of survival. Thus, there was unrest throughout the Lushai Hills. Once again the Lushais indulged in border raids. In November 1883, the tribes fell upon a party of Frontier Police and killed two sepoys and a servant. On 3rd February 1889, a survey party, under the command Lieutenant Steward was stormed and killed Lieutenant Steward and two European Sergeants. The Syloos (Sailos) swooped upon Chengri Valley burning twentyfour villages and killed one hundred one people and carried off ninety one prisoners. Since the situation was going from bad to worse the British decided that active measure had to be immediately taken. The British decided to take military actions against the Lushais. The object of the expeditions would be to prevent further raids, and to maintain communication by means of a road from Demagiri, also establish a post, and punish the chiefs involved in the raids.

The Southern Haulawng (Haulong) chiefs were made to undertake an oath of loyalty. A forty two miles of good hill road was constructed upto Lunglei. A large timber stockade was constructed at Lunglei with living

accommodations for 3 Offices and 250 riflemen. The Government had decided to locate a strong force at a central place. By means of this post at Lunglei it was hopes to dominate the southern Lushai Hills. Once the stockade was completed it was manned by 250 men of the Chittagong Frontier Police.\textsuperscript{20} To complete the work already begun, a far larger force again entered the Lushai hills in 1888-89. The object was to visit certain tribes that raided British territories and declined to come to terms, to open the country between Burma and Chittagong, to establish semi - permanent posts in the region visited and to ensure complete pacification and recognition of British power.

Three columns - Chittagong, Cachar and Burma acting from different directions, successfully carried out the main objects of the campaign. The Burma column constructed a mule road from Pokoko to Haka. Advancing from Lunglei, the Chittagong column constructed roads towards Haka and established a second post at Fort Tregear. The Cachar column reached the Aijal range on 4\textsuperscript{th} February, 1890 and made arrangement to build a stockade.\textsuperscript{21} By 15\textsuperscript{th} February, 1890 the site of the stockade was approved. The new post was christened “Aijal”. The garrison numbered about 200 from the Silchar Military Police under the command of Lieutenant H.G. Cole.\textsuperscript{22}

\textsuperscript{21} \textit{Ibid.}, p.286. 
\textsuperscript{22} \textit{Ibid.}, p.288.
Another post was established at Changsil, which was the termination of river communication with Silchar. Military posts were established at Demagiri, Aizawl, Lunglei and Fort Tregear.

**British Period**

In 1890, the British supremacy was established in the Lushai Hills, and Political officers were posted both at Aizawl and Lunglei. The Lushai Hills was divided into North Lushai Hills under the Chief Commissioner of Assam and South Lushai Hills under the administration of the Lieutenant Governor of Bengal. Law and order were the immediate problems before the local authorities and they concentrated their energies in enforcing law and order. The various administrative problems which faced the North and South Lushai Hills finally forced the British authorities to amalgate them into one unit under the Chief Commissioner of Assam with Aijal as its headquarters on 1st April, 1898. The unit became to be known as Lushai Hills District under the charge of a Superintendent. The Superintendent of the Lushai Hills was the head of the executive in of the District. The Superintendent was called ‘Bawrhsap’ by the Lushais. The Superintendent not only enjoyed certain extra judicial powers but also had the upper hand in the Police Administration. He had the powers to issue orders to the Commandant in all matters.

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Lushai Hills police administration was different from that of the Plains district. Before the amalgamation there had been two units of military police - the Lunglei Battalion and Aijal Battalion. In August 1896, the Lunglei Battalion revolted and as result of this it was decided at the Chin Lushai Conference that special emphasis on Police reorganization and recommended the amalgation at once in one battalion of the whole Military Police Force in the Lushai Hills. According to the recommendations the police force was reorganized into one unit.

Lushai administration since 1898 gave up the policy of sending punitive expedition against the offending chiefs on the slightest pretext. Shakespear the first Superintendent of Lushai Hills district began to follow policy of moderation and caution. Moreover, since 1898 the law and order did not pose any threat to the Lushai administration. The task of pacification was already over. The smooth running of the administration made the Government of Assam feel, at the beginning of the present century, the disutility of continuing the Military Police Force in the Lushai Hills and the likely switch over of the Military Police to Civil Police. In fact, a Civil Police had been organized in 1898-99 subsidiary to the Military Police, and the sanctioned Police force, Civil and Military had also been reduced to 1,106 men only.

24. Chin Lushai Conference was held to solve the administrative problems of the Chin Lushai country.
The Civil Police included 2 Sub-Inspectors and 49 Head Constables and men; but the real garrison of the District consisted of a battalion of military police, under three European officers with a sanctioned strength of 800 officers and men. A small jail at Aijal with accommodation for 13 prisoners was constructed.

Assam Period

Since Lushai Hills then was a part of Assam and Mizoram Police was a part of Assam Police, hence a brief account of the history of Assam Police is required to complete the picture.

There is no evidence of there being a regular police force in the state of Assam till the British took over after the Yandabu treaty of 1826. At the fag end of the Ahom rule and during the reign of Kamaleswar Singha (1795 -1811), an armed force on the British model was raised to serve the dual functions of maintenance of law and order and border defence. It was, however, not a regular and fully organized police force in the real sense of the term. After 1826, the British deployed regular troops in several parts of Assam to consolidate its occupation and a police establishment consisting of one Darogah, one Jamadhar and a number of constables was maintained at each district headquarters. From 1830 the strength of the

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troops was gradually reduced and by 1839-40 only 4 regiments were maintained. Side by side with this diminution in the size of the army there took place an accretion in the strength of the Armed Civil Police. Also, along with it rose the idea of a 'LEVY' or Militia, as a separated Force under the Civil Government, quite apart from the Armed Police branch. The most important development in this process was the raising of the "Cachar Levy" in 1835 by the Civil Service Officer, in-charge of Nowgong district, Mr. Grange, to guard new settlements and tea estates. It consisted of 750 officers and men of different ranks, viz., Inspectors, Head Constables and Constables. Three years later in 1838, a similar body, called "Jorhat Militia", was formed to protect the border areas of Sibsagar against frequent border transgressions. It was also known as the "Shan" militia, as the recruits were mostly from the Shan community. Eventually it was merged with the "Cachar Levy", which was subsequently renamed as "Frontier Police" in 1883 and then as "Assam Military Police" in 1891 and then again as "Assam Rifles" in 1920. The duties of the levy included the guarding of the Eastern Frontier of Assam from the Brahmaputra River to Cachar. The levy was a force of a semi-military nature. The men were poorly paid and the duties were arduous and often involving fighting. It is important to note that at the initial stage most of the recruits were from Bengal, as the local Assamese were not interested in joining the low-paid police service.

29. Ibid., p. 62.
The Government found that the Police force inducted from outside was not only inefficient but also oppressive, and therefore, decided to attract local Assamese youth to improve the character and efficiency of the police force. In October 1843, the Government upgraded the salary of the Darogah from `25 to `100 and there was a corresponding hike of the salary of other police personnel. This development saw the gradual induction of Assamese youth into the police force.

Till 1874, Assam was administratively a part of the British-ruled province of Bengal and was administered through an agent of the Governor-General from Calcutta. The Police officers were from the Bengal Cadre and the control and supervision of the Police Department were under the central administration. The Police Act of 1861 was introduced in Assam in 1862 and the Criminal Procedure Code was also brought into operation in the same year.30

Following this, there were new administrative developments, and one such was in respect of law and order and prevention of crime. Under a Government of India Notification No. 313 dated 12th September 1874, the first General Police District under the Police Act of 1861, eleven Police Districts were created in Assam. These were: (1) Goalpara, (2) Kamrup, (3) Darrang, (4) Nagaon, (5) Sibsagar, (6) Lakhimpur, (7) Garo Hills, (8) Khasi and Jaintia Hills, (9) Naga Hills, (10) Cachar and (11) Sylhet.31 The police

31. Ibid., p.13.
administration was run from Shillong, the provincial capital. Initially from 1876 to 1905, the Police was administered from Shillong. The first Inspector General of Police was Chichele Plowden, who was a civil servant.\(^{32}\) The police was divided into four branches (i) Civil Police, employed in the districts for maintenance of law and order and prevention of crimes and other miscellaneous duties generally entrusted upon the police (ii) Frontier Police, a quasi-military force entrusted with the responsibility of protection of the border (iii) Municipal Police, created to look after the law and order in the towns, and was subsequently amalgamated with the Civil Police in 1882, and (iv) Rural Police, a security force to handle the law and order in the villages. It may be noted that the Civil Police was the principal Police force in the Province and its total strength in 1874, at the time of constituting Assam as a Chief Commissioner’s province was 3,355.\(^{33}\) In those days, there was no Civil Police in Naga Hills and Garo Hills where its duties were performed by the Frontier Police or Military Police. In the Khasi and Jaintia Hills there was no Armed Police and Civil Police had to perform both the duties.

The Municipal Police first took birth in Assam under the Bengal District Municipal Improvement Act, 1864. This Act authorized the Lieutenant Governor of Bengal to extend the Act to any town at his discretion.

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and to determine the amount of house tax to be levied for the maintenance of Municipal Police. The Act was extended to the towns of Gauhati and Silchar on 1st May 1865.\textsuperscript{34} In 1874, in the newly constituted Chief Commissionership of Assam, Municipal Police existed in Kamrup, Sylhet and Cachar districts only. This type of Police was employed mainly in the premier towns administered by the Municipalities. The Municipal Police numbered around 40 in Gauhati and nine only in Cachar, while in Sylhet it was 2 Head Constables and 43 constables.\textsuperscript{35} In 1876, Municipal Police was also entertained in the town of Golpara and the total strength of the Municipal Police in Golpara, Kamrup, Sylhet and Cachar became 1 Sub Inspector, 5 Head Constables and 81 constables.\textsuperscript{36} The Municipal Police was later introduced in Dibrugarh in 1877 and Shillong in 1878.

The Bengal Regulation XIII of 1813 provided for the appointment and maintenance of an adequate establishment of Chowkidars in aid of regular Police. The Chowkidari Panchayat Act of Bengal 1870 embodied these recommendations. When the Chief Commissionership of Assam was constituted in 1874, village police or the ‘Chowkidari System’ existed only in Sylhet. In 1878, the Chowkidari Act was introduced in Golpara and Cachar district.

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\textsuperscript{35}. \textit{Ibid.}, p.97.
\textsuperscript{36}. \textit{Ibid.}
While the Rural and the Municipal police occupied an insignificant position, the mainstay of the police force in Assam was the Civil and the Frontier Police. This was done in accordance with the decision of the Government of India on 5th March, 1878 as a part of its reorganization of the police force. The force was classified into two categories viz. (i) Civil Police for the discharge of ordinary civil functions and (ii) The Frontier or Armed Police for quasi-military work. Although the Frontier Police (which was, as stated earlier, renamed as Armed Police in 1891) was created to defend the frontiers, it was also used very often to assist the civil police. At the beginning of 1881, there were Municipal Police at Goalpara, Gauhati, Dibrugarh, Sylhet, Sibsagar, Silchar and Shillong but from the 1st April of the year, the Municipal Police excepting those at Sylhet and Shillong, were amalgamated with the ordinary Civil Police. In 1883, the reorganization of the Police resulted in the creation of the Armed Civil Police which was to substitute the Frontier Police detachments in each district for watch and ward of treasuries, courts and jails and providing escorts. In addition to these two broad categories, a new police force called "Punitive Police" was formed in 1880 under the Police Act of 1861 and was deployed in Sylhet and Golapra to handle the recurrence of disturbances there. Later on it was deployed in the Khasi Hills. It was known as "Punitive" because it realized the cost of its main tenance from the erring inhabitants. When Sylhet was transferred to Assam in 1874 a special boat establishment was sanctioned which became the River Police. Five years later, the Railway
Police Force was created in April 1885 with one Head Constable and 4 Constables to assist the Railway Survey Party.\textsuperscript{37}

The Assam Police Frontier regulation of 1882 provided for the maintenance of proper discipline in the force and fixed the terms and conditions of service in the Assam Frontier Police. Further changes were witnessed in 1883 when the Frontier Police was re-organized to give it a distinct military role and the defence of the entire Frontier line was placed in its hands. The Frontier Police was organized into four corps which was stationed in Cachar, Lakhimpur, Garo Hills and Naga Hills. With the exception of these four districts the duties of guarding the Jails and Treasuries were taken over by the Civil Police.

At the turn of the 20\textsuperscript{th} century there was no significant increase in the strength of the civil police force. However, from a nearly non-existent police administration in 1874, the province experienced a quantitative growth in the number of police stations. By the end of the century, Assam had 94 police stations and outposts covering an average of 294 square miles of jurisdiction. Some districts like Darrang, Lakhimpur, Nagaon and Sibsagar had only 7 police stations each, Sylhet had a record number of 29, followed by Goalpara which had 19 police stations implying thereby that these were the two districts which needed a greater degree of policing to deal with crimes.\textsuperscript{38} Other districts were comparatively free from

\textsuperscript{37} Assam Police Headquarters, \textit{Op.Cit.} \\
\textsuperscript{38} \textit{Ibid.}
disturbances and crimes, and therefore, could be managed by a smaller number of personnel and stations. The year 1900 was noticeable in that scheme for reorganization of the Civil Police was sanctioned by the Government of India which resulted in the amalgamation of the Armed Civil Police with the Civil Police.

In 1905, when the new Province of Eastern Bengal and Assam was formed there was no separate cadre of Superior Police officer and the Police Department was administered by an Inspector General of Police who was also in charge of Jails, Excise and Registration. After the constitution of the new Province the Government of India sanctioned a provisional Superior Cadre consisting of 2 Deputy Inspectors General, 23 Superintendents of Police and 20 Assistant Superintendents of Police.\textsuperscript{39} The Inspector General of Police was relieved of all other duties and became exclusively Inspector general of Police. The plain districts were organized into police ranges, each under the immediate supervision of Deputy inspector General of Police. The Railway and River Police were placed under an Assistant Inspector General of Police. The Hill Districts were left under the immediate control of the Inspector General of Police.

In pursuance of the recommendations of the Police Commission more reforms were introduced from 1905 to 1907. Some of these were as follows:

1. Increase in the pay of Sub-Inspectors and constables.
2. An improved scale of pay of the Superior Police cadre.
3. Increase in the number of Sub-Inspectors.
4. Formation of Provincial C.I.D.
5. Substantial increase in the number of Constables.
6. Grade promotion to Inspectors, Sub-Inspectors and Head Constables.

A scheme for reorganization of the Civil Police received the sanction of the Secretary of State in 1911. It resulted in an increase in the number of officers and men employed and in the number of investigating centres. The River Police also received sanction the same year. Under it, provision was made for 27 thanas, a separate force and 36 launches.\(^{40}\)

The New Province of Assam came into existence in 1912. During that year, the formation of a new battalion for the North-East Frontier was sanctioned and a scheme for the reorganization of the whole Military Police Force into four uniformed Battalions of equal strength was drawn up and submitted to the Government. A Finger Print Bureau was set up at Shillong. The Criminal Investigation Department (C.I.D.) was established in 1913 under the special Superintendent of Police and A.E.H. Shettleworth was the first to occupy this position with three branches under his jurisdiction.

- the Special Branch, concerned with Intelligence and extremist activities, the Investigation Branch, the Finger Print Bureau as already mentioned.\textsuperscript{41} Considering the importance and volume of work, the post of Deputy Inspector General of Police (C.I.D.) was created in 1935 and R.R.Cuming became its first Deputy Inspector General.\textsuperscript{42} Its Headquarters was shifted from Shillong to Gauhati in 1974 after the creation of the state of Meghalaya in 1972.

As a result of Assam being a separate province the Military Police was also reorganized. The Silchar and Garo Hills detachments of the Military Police were transferred to Assam from Bengal. A scheme for reorganization of the whole Military Police force into four uniform battalions of equal strength received the provisional sanction of the Government of India pending the approval of the approval of the Secretary of State. The Garo Hills detachment was now amalgated with the new battalion being raised for the North-East Frontier. The new Military Police battalion was christened as the Darrang Military Police and eventually the Silchar detachment was also merged with it. The sanction of the Secretary of State for the reorganization of the Military Police Force was received in 1915. The principal improvement related to the raising of the strength of each battalion and better pay. A River Police was formally constituted in Assam in 1915. By the end of 1916 the Police training School at Silchar

\textsuperscript{42} \textit{Ibid.}, p.97.
was moved to Dibrugarh and its status was formally raised to that of a provincial Police Training School.

In 1917, the Military Police was christened as the Assam Rifles. The years 1919-20 saw a number of important changes and improvements. It was decided to confine recruitment to the Assam rifles as far as possible to the people of the Province. The sanctioned strength of the Civil Police was considerably increased and a liberal scale of pay of Head Constables and Constables was sectioned.

Assam Police was honoured with its first professional Inspector General of Police in 1919 and Mr. A.A. Campbell I.P. was the first Police officer to this post on 21st September, 1919.43

The jurisdiction of the Railway Police was also redistributed in 1923 in conformity with the provincial boundary. The headquarters of the Superintendent of Railway police was temporarily located at Gauhati, though later in 1927 it was shifted to Haflong. A separate Town Police was constituted in 1926 to which Constables were permanently posted. This, measure, however, did not prove to be popular with the men and the previous decision of permanently posting Constables to the Town Police was reversed. The term of a constable for service in the Town Police was fixed at two years only. In the beginning of 1930, the sanction of the Government

was accorded to the revision of pay of all ranks of Assam Rifles. The Government accepted the recommendations of the Assam Civil Police Committee set up in 1929 regarding the increase of pay of constables, Head Constables and Assistant Sub-Inspectors with effect from 1st April 1930. The system of granting deferred pay of `150 to each constable for 5 years’ continuous approved service was introduced from 1st April, 1929.\textsuperscript{44}

The economy drive of the Government necessitated by the financial crisis in 1931-32 led to large scale retrenchments in the Police as in the other Government departments and this badly affected the efficiency of the force. Shortly after 1933 a considerable effort was made to augment the Police Force in order to cope with the increase in crimes and law and order situation in the state.

The administration of the Motor Vehicles Act was transferred from the P.W.D. to the Police in 1937. From 1st April 1937, the Assam Rifles became a Central force though it continued to be under the Inspector General of Police, Assam.\textsuperscript{45}

The burden of additional duties thrown upon the Police increased enormously with the progress of the Second World War. Control over foreigners, vigilance over lines of communications, encounter-espionage and anti-sabotage activities, and the maintenance of internal security were

\textsuperscript{44} Assam Police Headquarters, \textit{Op.Cit.}
\textsuperscript{45} Ibid.
the main extra tasks of the Police during 1940. The dangers of the underground activities helpful to the hostile powers were met by the employment of a small Intelligence Staff. During 1941 a temporary force was entertained to meet the war demands both in the gazetted rank and the subordinate Police service. It also fell to the Police to administer the Motor spirit rationing scheme introduced in 1941 as well as the licensing of tyres.

The Assam Police faced an entirely novel set of circumstances during 1942. It became clear in the early part of the year that the triumphal march of the Japanese armed forces could not be stopped and the fate of Burma was hanging in the balance. The flow of refugees from Burma which commenced towards the end of 1941 gathered momentum. The task of requisitioning motor transport for use on the Imphal-Dimapur Road was suddenly thrust on the Police and Superintendents of Police were directed to produce a large number of motor vehicles for the transport of supplies, labour, etc., to Manipur as well as for the evacuation of Burma refugees to the railhead at Dimapur. With the rapid march of the war to the borders of Assam, it soon became apparent that the police force was inadequate to meet the new situation and various sanctions were asked for and received during the year for raising of forces for the protection of the railways, the guarding of aerodromes and other security duties in connection with the war. There was an increase in the Police force by nearly one half of its original strength.
During the cold weather of 1942-43 the stream of refugees from Burma began to dry up but the danger of infiltration by enemy agents increased. To combat this menace, security measures were further tightened and extra force was sanctioned. The preparation for the invasion of India by the Japanese forces created new problems of internal security which the Assam Police was called upon to tackle. The Naga Hills and Manipur became the main targets of attack by the Japanese forces and the Assam Police supplied officers and men to augment the local Police forces and helped in establishing intelligence screens in these areas. When the threat of the Japanese to the railway and other vital communications was at its height, the Police, stationed in the airfields bombed by the enemy, in the isolated pockets and in the threatened areas, remained firm. Apart from the actual dangers of war, the increase of incidental work of the Police was enormous and a high proportion of the time was devoted by the Police officers of all ranks in dealing with the Armies of the allies, both Americans and Chinese. Till the end of 1944, the total additional temporary staff sanctioned was 5113. The cost of the Department rose greatly and a large part of the increase was borne by the Central Government on account of services rendered to the Defence Department.

The war years conferred the boon of increased mobility on the Police by the grant of motor vehicles to the department. In 1942, for the first time in its history the Assam Police was provided with 4 motor vehicles, which

were increased by additions in the subsequent years. The responsibility for organizing a Fire Brigade also developed on the Police and a start was made in some of the important towns of the Province.47

After the end of Second World War in 1945, the question of reduction of the temporary forces entertained during the year engaged the attention of the Government and it was ultimately realized that the necessity for the bulk of these forces still remain and the need of the hour was the immediate reorganization of the Police Force. Mr. J.E. Reid, I.P. was appointed Deputy Inspector general of Police, Administration, to draw up a comprehensive scheme for the reorganization of the Police in Assam.48

The year 1947, saw the transfer of power from British to Indian hands. The preliminaries to the constitutional changes as well as their aftermath threw an unprecedented strain on the Police Force. Two important changes affected the Assam Police. The first was the transfer of the Sylhet district to Pakistan and second was the complete separation of the administration of the Assam Rifles from the Police. The retirement of a large number of service officers mainly British, the release of personnel opting for Pakistan and the absorption of those serving in Sylhet who opted for India were the main factors which caused a temporary setback in the strength and resilience of the Police force immediately after Independence.

The Assam Civil Police Committee constituted in 1929 under the chairmanship of Sir Syed Mohammad Saadullah, after making a detailed study and seeking the opinion of various sections of the public, arrived at a few notable conclusions: (i) It was felt that there was a wide gap between the police and the public, which made the police unpopular. The unhappy relationship was attributed to the frequent abuse of power by policemen; (ii) There was widespread inefficiency and corruption in the police administration which could be tackled only by revamping it with the recruitment of educated youths; and to attract educated persons to the police department, the salary structure, which was very low, should be raised; (iii) The training of the constabulary too had been neglected so far which affected the quality in the echelons of the police administration. Therefore, it was recommended that there should be one year thorough training of this class of police personnel in a well-staffed training school; (iv) Fifty per cent of the subordinate ranks should be filled in by promotion after a departmental examination and (v) the traditional red turban should be replaced by a hat and due emphasis should be given to a smart and tidy turn out.

Although some of these conclusions and recommendations received the attention of the Government, such as the upward revision of the salary structure, departmental promotion through examination and remodeling of the police uniform, there was hardly any visible step towards qualitative improvement of the police administration.
The River police and the Rural police never received proper attention of the Government and remained as neglected segments of the Police organization during the British Rule in Assam. The anti-terrorist operation carried out in 1950-51 with the help of the Army and the Assam Rifles brought to the surface both the weaknesses and the strengths of the Police organization and indicated clearly what further measures should imperatively be taken to remove the deficiencies. To make the Police suited to the changed circumstances the Government set up a Police Reorganization Committee in 1952 but due to financial stringency most of the recommendations of the Committee could not be implemented. Some urgent items were, however, pushed through and these included establishment of more Police Stations and Outposts, increase in the armed and unarmed police and construction of buildings. The Wireless and Fire Service Organizations were also reorganized during this period. The posts of Deputy Inspector General, Range, Deputy Inspector General, Armed Forces and Training and Deputy Inspector General, Administration were created.

The disturbed conditions in the Naga Hills arising out of the activities of the followers of A. Z. Phizo claiming independence for the Nagas posed a new problem to the Assam Police in 1956 and in the following years. The Police force in the Naga Hills had to be reinforced and a large number of platoons of the Assam Police Battalions were drafted to cope with the situation. It is a matter of pride that the Assam Police gave a good account
of themselves and proved equal to the task and as good as any armed force deployed in the area. When the Naga Hills district was separated from Assam in 1958, the Assam Police was withdrawn in stages but they continued to man the outposts on the Naga Hills border.

As India became Independent in 1947, the Police Administration consisted of the Inspector General of Police at the apex, who was vested by Government under the Police Act V of 1861 with the administration of the Police in General Police District of Assam, constituted in 1874 and 2 Deputy Inspector Generals, one for the C.I.D. and the other for Administration created in 1935 and 1945 respectively. There was no Deputy Inspector Generals of Police, Ranges, as in other Provinces. The Inspector General of Police was in his office was assisted by Assistant Inspector General of Police (A.I.G.P.), which post was held by an officer of Superintendent’s rank. 49 A large number of police personnel of various ranks went to then East Pakistan in the wake of the transfer of the Sylhet district which had been with Assam since 1874. Similarly, those police personnel who had roots in Assam moved back to the State. There were two significant developments having a far reaching impact, (a) The British officers left the State and their positions were occupied by Indian officers. All the high positions in the police administration during the colonial era were occupied by the British and after their departure; there was a vacuum in

the administration because of the absence of experienced and qualified officers. (b) There was complete separation of the Assam Rifles from the Assam Police. These two branches had been working as one unit and with the numerical growth of the Assam Police the need to separate these branches was felt to ensure greater efficiency and control. Several problems connected with the partition of the country kept the Police busy during 1949 and there was hardly any time for them to attend to proper training in professional skills and discipline and the control of crime. The force proved inadequate for the various complex problems facing it. Large gaps in the cadre of superior officers led to rapid promotions of inexperienced or old officers. Demands on the armed reserve of the state by other departments and the requirements of security on the Pakistan border brought to the fore front the utter inadequacy of the armed police strength. On top of all this, the appearance of the cult of violence propagated by certain elements made the situation menacing. It is gratifying to note, however, that inspite of all these short comings and difficulties, the Assam Police, by and large, managed to tide over this difficult traditional period without much of its reputation impaired.

The strength of police force in Assam at the time of independence was around 8,000. For just 3,352 officers and men in 1874 when Assam was separated from Bengal and placed under the administration of a Chief Commissioner to the strength of 8,000 at the time of independence is not
a spectacular development. But the British left behind a disciplined force with a set of rules and regulations which provided the basic foundation of the present police administration in the state. After independence the police administration in Assam has grown from strength to strength.

There have been significant changes in the police administration at both the horizontal and vertical levels. Several new branches have been created in the post-independence era to cater to the needs of the state.

It is relevant to note that with the growth and development of the police administration in the post-colonial era, a number of new branches were established to meet the increasing demands of law and order and also of a peculiar situation obtained in the state, such as the large-scale infiltration of the foreign nationals from across the border causing a serious imbalance in the demographic structure of the state and threatening national security. Some of these newly created branches are:

1. Bureau of Investigation (Economic Offences).
2. Special Branch.
3. Criminal Investigation Department.
5. Assam Police Radio Organisation.
6. Assam River Police Organisation.

7. State Fire Service Organisation.
8. All Women Police Station.
9. Establishment of Forensic Science Laboratory.

The Assam Police has grown from strength to strength during the last two decades. In 1980, it had a force of 40,290 and at the end of the 20th century its numerical strength stands at 61,263.51 Since its humble origins over a century ago, the Assam Police has made great strides and today it is a well-organized and disciplined force with a long record of useful service behind it. During the course of the past decades, the Assam Police has developed proud and healthy traditions of service and conduct and though it had its failure and shortcomings, it has been able to play its part with credit and distinction and its record and performance have been as good and as worthy as that of any other police force in India.

In the then Lushai Hills, Subject to Act V of 1861 and the Assam Military Police Regulation, the Lushai Hills Police consisted of ‘Regular Police’. The control of the Police was vested in the Superintendent, who was assisted by such officers as might be from time to time appointed, acting under the orders of the Chief Commissioner. The general supervision of the ‘Regular Force’ was vested in the Inspector General of Police as regards discipline and that should, as far as they were applicable, be

observed by the regular force. All the inhabitants of the Lushai Hills were bound to help the regular police when required to do so.\textsuperscript{52}

In 1930's, the police was stationed at Aijal, Lungleh, Kolosib, Sairang and Demagiri.\textsuperscript{53} Their chief duties being the control of all non-Lushais when they are within the jurisdiction of the various outposts. All the Lushais were under the control of the Superintendent through the Chiefs and the Circle Staff at Aijal and through the Sub-Divisional Officer, Lungleh in a similar way at Lungleh. The internal administration was carried on as far as possible in accordance with the Police Manuals, a special Police Clerk being employed.

The Lushais were recruited into the civil police. Latterly it has been possible to fill vacancies with matriculates and the condition that arose at one time when there was no constable fit to take the examination from Constable to Assistant Sub-Inspector was remedied in due course. In order to overcome the problem of a Lushai constable who passed his examination to Assistant Sub-Inspector to learn Bengali or Assamese it was decided to post the constable to the plains for a period of two years to learn the language.

The Superintendent exercised the power of a Superintendent of Police and the Sub-Divisional Officer, Lungleh and Assistants to the Superintendent at Aijal the powers of Assistant Superintendents of Police.

The Standing orders for guidance of the Civil Police was derived from the Assam Police Manuals as per Notification 6161 G.J. dated 20th November 1936. The Police was to guided by the Police Manuals. The jurisdiction of each Thana was described at the foot of these orders. Within this jurisdiction all non-Lushais came under the jurisdiction of the Force. As regards Lushais, they were primarily under the control of the Chiefs and Circle Staff. The police was not allowed to take independent action outside their jurisdiction either against Lushais or non-Lushais except with permission from an Officer. When such permission was given the Police endeavoured to go to work with the assistance of the Chief and as far as possible according to his wishes. The Sub-Inspector, Aijal and Lunglei visited all villages within Aijal Reserve and Lungleh Residence Surchage area once in a month and brought to notice of authority any irregularities observed.

The Officer-in-Charge, Thana was at all times responsible for drawing attention of Superintendent or Sub-Divisional Officer, Lungleh of any breaches of members of the public of any of the daily published orders contained in the District Cover published from time to time. The Sub-Inspectors of all Thanans had to keep a look out for any newspaper or book

publications which may be notified as undesirable from time to time. The officer in Charge Thana was to make inspections of all Ammunition shops not less than once quarterly and submit his report to the Superintendent, Lushai Hills or Sub-Divisional Officer, Lungleh.

During the British rule there were territorial formations, applications of laws, extension and adaptation of Indian laws to Lushai Hills. The Lushai Hills as declared as Scheduled District, Backward Tracts and excluded area. This period from 1890 to 1946 was the Golden Age in Mizo history. The Kushai Hills was very peaceful, prosperous and self sufficient. There were no political parties, no political issues, no communal problem and no border problems. This period witnessed cultural revival, Gospel revival, new songs and dances and there was atmosphere of peace. There was hardly any cognizable crime and Aijal Jail was practically empty.

**Post Independence Period**

After attainment of Independence, the Lushai Hills was formed into two District Council viz. Mizo District Council Aizawl and Regional District Council, Saiha. The Aijal Police Station building formerly held by the Military Police (Assam Rifles) since 1896 was taken over by the Assam Police on 1947. From 1949 onwards the Deputy Commissioner took charge of the Police organisation and the strength of the Police was considerably strengthened within a few years. The Assam Government sanctioned six
Police Station at Aijal, Lungleh, Saiha, Kolasib, Champhai and Tlabung.\textsuperscript{55} The Police Station were under the charge of a Sub-Inspector assisted by two or more Assistant Sub-Inspectors.\textsuperscript{56} The Police Station had a strength of around 12 constables each.\textsuperscript{57} In 1959, there were two Deputy Superintendent of Police, two Inspectors and Sergeant Majors, fourteen Sub-inspectors, forty seven assistant Sub-Inspectors and Head Constables and 337 constables. The District Armed Police Branch comprised of three Platoons which was stationed at Armed Veng now First Mizoram Armed Police Headquarters. The Superintendent, Lushai Hills was over all incharge of Police who was assisted by one Deputy Superintendent of Police (D.S.P.). The D.S.P. Office with a small C.I.D. Cell, was established at the present office building of S.P. Aizawl. The first Superintendent of Police was posted to Aizawl in the year 1960.\textsuperscript{58}

On March 1966, the Mizo National front declared Mizoram Independence and started open armed rebellion against the Government of India. The Assam Disturbed Area Act and Armed Force Special Act were declared in the entire area of Mizo District. As a result the Indian Army, Central Reserve Police Force (C.R.P.F.), Border Security Force (B.S.F.), Provincial Armed Constabulary (P.A.C.) etc. were deployed for restoration of Civil Administration.

\textsuperscript{55} Data collected through interview with Mr. F.Lalremsiama on 23/4/2010. F. Laremsiama was the S.P. of Aizawl from 1964 - 1967. \\
\textsuperscript{56} Ibid. \\
\textsuperscript{57} Government of Mizoram, \textit{Mizoram District Gazetters}, 1989, p.256. \\
\textsuperscript{58} Data collected through interview with Mr. F.Lalremsiama on 23/4/2010.
On 21st January 1972, the Mizo District was constituted into a Union Territory. The erstwhile Assam Police in Mizo District under Assam was converted into Mizoram Police. The first Inspector General of Police (I.G.P.) Mizoram, I.J. Verma was posted to Mizoram. Under his supervision, the Police Reorganization Scheme was taken up during 1973, which comprised of the following:

1. Opening of new District Police Headquarter at Lunglei and Saiha.
2. Opening of Police Sub-Division at Aizawl, Lunglei, Kolasib, Champhai, Mamit, Tlabung and Lawngtlai.
4. Formation of Mizoram C.I.D. Aizawl and District S.B.
7. Raising of First Battalion Mizoram Armed Police.

Recruitment drive was done to strengthen the Mizoram Police. Besides regular candidates recruitment from Ex-servicemen and Home Guards was done. The Sub-Inspectors trainees were sent to Dergoan in Assam and Assistant Sub-Inspectors were sent to Agartala, Tripura for training. The training of these recruits were completed within 9 months on request from the Government of Mizoram.⁶⁰

A new Police Training Centre was opened at Lungverh to train the constables. Initially the area around Selesih was chosen for its proximity to the National Highway for the purpose. But due to the resistance from the Village Council it was abandoned as they preferred to have a Veterinary Farm instead. An offer from the Sakawrtuichhun Village Council for establishing the Police Training Centre was made and accordingly looked into. The site at Lungverh was subsequently selected.⁶¹

During the formative period, Mizoram was under the thick cloud of insurgency operations and the main strength of Mizoram Police was concentrated towards counter insurgency operations.

On 13th January, 1975, the second I.G.P. Mizoram G.S. Arya, first Deputy Inspector General of Police (D.I.G.) I.B. Sewa and newly appointed S.P. C.I.D. (S.B.) Panchamakeshan while in a meeting at I.G.P. Office were

⁶⁰ Data collected through interview with Mr. F. Lalremsiama on 23/4/2010.
⁶¹ Ibid.
killed by the Mizo National Front (MNF). Brigadier Gurnam Singh Randhawa took over charge of the I.G.P.

Under the supervision of the new I.G.P., Brigadier G.S. Randhawa, the second phase of Mizoram Police Reorganization Scheme was worked out which comprised of the following:


3. Creation of Uniformed Ministerial staff.


5. Raising of 2 Companies for Second Battalion Mizoram Armed Police.

6. Expansion of Police Wireless grid to cover all the Police Stations.

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62. Data collected through interview with Mr. Tlangkunga on 15/5/2010, the author of the Police Diary Mizoram Police Companion.
63. Ibid.
In the year 1979-81, expansion of Civil Police set up was taken up, Government of Mizoram sanctioned 365 posts of various ranks for strengthening of existing 23 Police Stations and for the opening of 6 new Police Stations at the following places:  

1. Bairabi  
2. Vervek  
3. Khawzawl  
4. Tupuibari  
5. Lungseh  

A small Motor Transport workshop, the Central Police Workshop at Aizawl and maintenance Unit at Lunglei were opened.

During the counter-insurgency operation from 1966-1986, 15 police officers and men of Mizoram police were killed by the MNF and 26 Police personnel were awarded President/Police medal for gallantry. Also The number of MNF personnel killed were 77, 398 apprehended, 827 surrendered and 525 returned.  

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64. See Mizoram Police Records, 1990 for details.  
65. See Mizoram Police Records, 2010 for details.
On 30th June 1986 a Peace accord was signed by the Government of India, Government of Mizoram and the MNF and the new Mizoram State was constituted on 20th February 1987 with special provision to safeguard and protect the customs, religion and social life and practice of Mizo under Article 371-G of the Indian Constitution.

The Mizoram Police was upgraded and strengthened to become the State Police Force. The reorganisation scheme of Mizoram Police under the newly created State comprised of the following:66

1. Raising of Second Battalion of Mizoram Armed Police with its Battalion Headquarters located at Lunglei.

2. Creation of Staff for Police Training Centre Lungverh consisting of 178 posts.


5. Opening of new Fire Sub-station at Kolasib and Saiha.

The following additional posts were also sanctioned for the following branches:

1. Traffic staff Aizawl 31 posts
2. Prosecution staff 10 posts
3. Narcotic Cell 17 posts
4. Central Police Workshop 12 posts
5. Police Wireless 13 posts
6. Forensic Science Laboratory 02 post

The Hmar, a tribe in Mizoram dwells in the northern part of Mizoram and the adjoining parts of Manipur. The regional feeling and demand for a separate District Council among the Hmars led to a period of insurgency in Mizoram from 1989 to 1994. The Hmar’s formed a political party in 1986 known as the Hmar People’s Convention (HPC) in 1986 to fight for the demands of the Hmar people living in Mizoram. The HPC in order to persuade the government to meet their demands started non violent agitations in the form of bandhs. This was met by the government in a high handed manner resulting in clashes. These clashes between the public and the police led to the taking up of arms by some of the volunteers of the HPC and fled to the forest. The first gun battle between the HPC and the

Mizoram Police took place on 16th May, 1989 at Moniarkhal, where two Hmar volunteers and a Sub-Inspector of police were killed. During the period of the insurgency various anti-insurgency operations were carried out by the police. Peace talks continued during the period of the insurgency and after 14 rounds, the Government of Mizoram and the HPC signed a Memorandum of Settlement on 27th July, 1994. This ended the armed confrontation between the Government of Mizoram and HPC which experienced an armed confrontation starting from 29th April, 1989 to 27th July, 1994. During this period of Hmar insurgency a total of 27 HPC volunteers, 9 policemen and 10 civilians were killed. 11 police personnel were awarded medals for their gallantry during this period.68

In 1989, the Mizoram Police was headed by an Inspector General of Police assisted by two Deputy Inspector Generals of Police, two Assistant Inspector Generals of Police, eight Superintendents, twenty Deputy Superintendents and fifty three Inspectors of Police. A number of Sub-Inspectors, Assistant Sub-Inspectors, Head Constables and constables constitute the police force. The total strength of the force was over 2060. The armed police consisted of 772 rank and file including one commandant. The District Police administration in each of the three districts was headed by a Superintendent of Police assisted by Deputy Superintendent of Police, Inspectors and others. There were 23 numbers of Police Stations

68. See Mizoram Police Records, 2000 for details.
throughout Mizoram. The S.B. and C.I.D. (Crime) was headed by two Superintendent of Police.⁶⁹

In the year 1991, 4 Companies of Mizoram Armed Police for Third Battalion were raised and an additional 2 companies were raised in 1994 which were required for completion of raising full strength of Third Mizoram Armed Police. In 1993, one India Reserve Battalion was sanctioned by Central Government for Mizoram.⁷⁰

In 1993, the First Indian reserve Battalion was sanctioned by the Central Government with an initial provision ` 6.37 crores.⁷¹

In the year 1995, Zokhawthar Out Post was created and also the post of Sub Divisional Police Officer for Chawngte was created.⁷²

The Brus reside in the western part of the Mamit District of Mizoram. The Bru having felt that they were given step-motherly treatment by the Government of Mizoram demanded a separate District Council in order to meet their political demand. At the same time an armed group of the Bru known as the Bru National Front (BNLF) was formed in 9th November 1996 with an initial membership of seventeen to strengthen their demand. The BNLF was involved in the killing of a Forest Department employee on 20th October, 1997. This event marked the beginning of Bru insurgency. The

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BNLF were involved in numerous activities like robbing, assault of innocent civilians and endless demand letters for money were served to the Mizo people living in the western belt of Mizoram. No major clash took place between the BNLF and Mizoram police. However, due to the constant pressure of the police actions the BNLF surrendered on 25th July, 2005. During this period of Bru insurgency 10 police and 3 civilians were killed.\textsuperscript{73}

In 1998, the post of Sub-Divisional Police Officer for Khawzawl, Hnahthial and Kawrthah were created. In 1998 with the creation of the new districts of Champhai and Mamit the post of Superintendent of Police were created these two new districts.\textsuperscript{74}

In 1999, the post of Inspector General of Police was elevated to the Director General of Police. New post of Superintendent of Police for the newly created districts of Serchhip, Kolasib and Lawngtlai were sanctioned and created.\textsuperscript{75}

In 2000, the Second Indian Police Reserved Battalion was raised with a total strength of 1007 including Officers and medical staff. In 2006, the 3rd Indian reserved Battalion was raised with a total strength of 1060 including Officers and medical staff. \textsuperscript{76}

\textsuperscript{73} See Mizoram Police Records, 2010 for details. \\
\textsuperscript{74} See Mizoram Police Records, 2000 for details. \\
\textsuperscript{75} See Mizoram Police Records, 2002 for details. \\
\textsuperscript{76} Ibid.
As of 2005, the Mizoram Police is nearly 10000 officers and men strong. It is headed by a Director General of Police assisted by an Inspector General of Police. There are four Deputy Inspector Generals of Police, twenty-three Superintendents of Polices, thirty Additional Superintendents of Police, sixty eight Deputy Superintendent of Police and 8800 other officers and men. The state is divided into eight districts. It has 35 Police Stations, 16 Outposts and 21 Border Post.\textit{(See Figure 5.1, page 237)}

The State Police, headed by a Director General of Police is assisted by one Inspector General of Police and four Deputy Inspectors Generals of Police. The State Home Minister and Home Secretary, oversee the functioning of the State Police. The Home Minister, the Chief Secretary, Home Secretary and Director General of Police hold regular meetings on the functioning of law and order machinery and review the situation from time to time. The under-mentioned Committees are constituted vide Chief Secretary’s Memo Number A.19011/10/CSMZ/00 dated 27.4.00, wherein police officials are included as members:\textit{78}

i) Committees of Ministers on Security and related matters, comprising the Home Minister as Chairman and four other Ministers.

\textit{77. See Annual Report 2005-06, Mizoram Police for details.}
\textit{78. See Mizoram Police Records, 2000 for details.}
Figure 5.1

ORGANIZATIONAL CHART OF MIZORAM POLICE

ii) State Level Security Coordination Committee, comprising the Chief Secretary as the Chairperson and five members.

iii) Working Groups on Security to deal with emergencies, involving kidnapping and similar other law and order problems, with the Chief Secretary as Chairman and five other members.

The district police and the district magistracy work in tandem to deal with the law and order situations and maintain close co-operation and understanding.

The State is divided into 8 Police districts, parallel to the revenue districts and each one of them is headed by a senior Superintendent of Police, who is assisted by an Additional Superintendent of Police. In Aizawl district two additional Superintendent of Police are provided. Till 1998, Aizawl district constituted more than half of Mizoram, got divided into five districts namely, Aizawl district, Champhai district, Mamit district, Serchhip district and Kolasib district. Such a division led to large scale reallocation of men and material, and the crime records. It, however, helped in obtaining needed focus to the Aizawl district, which continues to be the centre of activities in the State.
In total, there are 14 police sub-divisions, each headed by a Deputy Superintendent of Police level officer and 35 Police Stations and 16 Police Out Posts. Additionally there are several Border Out Posts manned by Mizoram Armed Police, located along the State’s border with Manipur, Assam and Tripura. The international borders, with Bangladesh is manned by Border Security Force (B.S.F.) and the border with Myanmar is manned by the Assam Rifles. (See Map 5.1, page 240; Map 5.2, page 241; Map 5.3, page 242; Map 5.4, page 243)

Besides the Civil Police, (the D.E.F.) the State Police also consist of armed personnel called the Mizoram Armed Police. The Mizoram Armed Police consist of three Battalions, namely, the First Mizoram Armed Police Battalion, the Second Mizoram Armed Police Battalion and the Third Mizoram Armed Police Battalion. Besides the Mizoram Armed Police Battalions, three battalions of the Indian Reserve Police Battalion exist, namely the First Indian Reserve Police Batallion, the Second Indian Reserve Police Battalion and the Third Indian Reserve Police Battalion.

Every effort is made to keep these Armed Battalions spread out in different parts of the State so as to deal with any situation quickly and effectively. By and large, the First Mizoram Armed Police Battalion covers Aizawl city and Border Out Posts. In the Eastern border with Manipur, the

79. See Mizoram Police Records, 2005 for details.
Police Station / Police Outpost near Border manned by MAP/IR

1. Vairengte
2. Kanhmun
3. Bairabi
4. Zawlinuam
5. Kawthah
6. Marpara
7. Bunghmun
8. Tlabung
9. Chawngte
10. New Vervek
11. Ngopa
12. Champhai
13. Zokhawthar
14. N. Vanlaiphai
15. Thingsai
16. South Vanlaiphai
17. Sangau
18. Phura

BORDER OUT POST MANAGED BY ASSAM RIFLE

1. Sakawrdai
2. Ratu
3. Mimbung
4. Ngopa
5. Hnahlan
6. Champhai
7. Zokhawthar
8. Khawbung
9. Sangau
10. Saiha
11. Tuipang
12. Tuithumhnar
13. Parva

Second Mizoram Armed Police Battalion in Lunglei town and southern Mizoram, the Third Mizoram Armed Battalion and the First Indian Reserve Police Batallion jointly cover the western border with Tripura and the Northern border with Assam.

Mizoram has a Criminal Investigation Department headed by a Deputy Inspector General of Police with two Superintendents of Police, one in charge of the Special Branch (C.I.D. S.B.) and the other in charge of Crime Branch (C.I.D. Crime). The Special Branch (C.I.D. S.B.) is the intelligence agency primarily responsible for collection, scrutiny and a systematic processing of the information of political and subversive nature, including all kinds of violent and secret activities of communal leaders, labour unions and youth groups. The branch keeps a special eye on matters connected with the security of the state and its jurisdiction also extends to undesirable activities of foreign agents and spies. All foreigners entering Mizoram have to report themselves within twenty four hours of arriving in Mizoram to the Superintendent of Police Special Branch. The Crime Branch (C.I.D. Crime) investigates and keeps an eye on special kinds of crimes such as bank note forgery, currency counterfeiting, professional kidnapping, organized cheating and fraud, and professional poisoning, etc. The scope of activities extends to thefts of government ammunition, copper wire and illicit trade in arms. Important cases of murder, dacoity, house-breaking and cases involving foreigners fall under the investigation purview of the
branch. A Forensics Science Laboratory has been established to provide for several kinds of scientific laboratory to conduct scientific experiments to establish identity of criminals.

The Mizoram Police Radio Organisation headed by a Superintendent of police provides communication facilities required by the various branches of the police force. There is an Anti Corruption Branch headed by a Superintendent of Police. The main function of the Anti Corruption Branch is to collect intelligence to detect cases of bribery and corruption falling within the purview of Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988 and to investigate these offences and to institute enquiries into complaints made by the members of the public or received from Government officials relating to bribery, corruption, criminal misconduct, embezzlement of Government money and other venal practices by public servants. A Police Training Centre is present at Lungverh. Policemen from the rank of Assistant Sub Inspector to Deputy Superintendent of Police are sent to the North eastern Police Academy located at Umsaw near Shillong for one year basic training are sent to the A separate Traffic Police Branch has been established only for the city of Aizawl.

The State Police has a total sanctioned strength of 11172 personnel. The total strength has a component of 2717 Civil Police located at various districts and 6861 Armed Police, that is, First Mizoram Armed Police

80. See Mizoram Police Records, 2006 for details.
located at Armed Veng, Aizawl, the Second Mizoram Armed Police located at Lunglei and the Third Mizoram Armed Police located at Mualpui, Aizawl, and the First Indian Reserve Police Batallion located at Mualvum, the Second Indian Reserve Police Batallion located at Khawzawl and the Third Indian Reserve Police Batallion located at Rengdil. In addition there are wireless, ministerial, mechanics and medical staff.

To sum up it may be pointed out Mizoram as a State and its predecessors like the Lushai Hills District and Union Territory of Mizoram had the structure police administration. During the Pre-British period and British period, there were some forms of police administration which could be improved upon after Independence of India. The importance of Assam Police organisation and its functioning influenced the situation in Mizoram to a large extent considering its relationship and connections with the administrative set up in Mizoram.